



The World Wireless Beacon

Newsletter of the
Society of Wireless Pioneers, Inc.
P.O. Box 86, Geyserville, CA 95441-0086 USA

Vol. 12 No. 2

June 2000

Morse, Big Rooms and Other Sea Stories from the NCVA Internet

Some of our SOWP members are members also of The U S Naval Cryptologic Veterans Assn. The Summer 1999 issue of the NCVA CRYPTOLOG carried slices of memory that Graydon Lewis, its editor, has enthusiastically permitted us to share in *The World Wireless Beacon*. They are bound to trigger some recognition of kinship with SOWP among Morse users. We'll clip non-related passages in the interest of brevity. Do enjoy!

Corry Station Memories -by Lou Canick

...We had our own regimes to go through. We heard all the horror stories about the 'Big Room,' saw people walking around reciting Morse code to themselves, banging on anything and everything to send messages to each other in the geedunk, galley, barracks, or wherever. We felt sorry for those poor guys. What misery they must have been going through. We heard about some guy who...cut his wrists and was

taken off to the hospital at NAS, never to return...

Us 'O Branchers' had it much better in comparison. We learned (if we didn't already know how) to type on old Model 19 TTY equipment. That stuff couldn't support more than a few words a minute on the keyboard. But that's what we had to start on. We had a sort of 'big room' in the middle of hanger 516, I think it was, where all the old Mod 19's were. All of us NUGs (new guys) would be hammering away on that stuff while watching the more advanced classes working in classrooms off to the sides of the middle area. They were all working with the coolest looking machines we had ever seen - Model 28's. We could not wait to get to those sleek, modern machines, with their blazing speed of 100 wpm. It was really an incentive to get to the next phase. Then when we got in there we had day after day of typing and learning to read punched tape

characters.

We watched some of the instructors come in while we were 'working' and flip open the exercise books with pages of text in five-letter groups of letter, number, letter, number, etc, and they would just blaze on the keyboard. Lots different than a typewriter, because you had to shift to get the numbers and symbols...the keys were all dual purpose. Some of those guys would make us think we would never get to be that fast...

Code Training -by Roman Martin

...My reveries begin at Building 66 in Imperial Beach, California. In the early days of 1954 when I arrived from boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois, the base was rather "unimproved" considered to its latter days. We could go into the mess and order breakfast. Milk was on the tables in aluminum pitchers and I thought the

(continued next page)

Morse, Big Rooms and Other Sea Stories from the NCVA Internet - From Page 1

chow was rather un-Navy-like.

...We learned to touch-type and to take the code with a stick in a period of two weeks. We didn't have Wheatstone perf tape transmitters. As I recall the implement of torture was a TG-65. It read an inked tape and converted the symbols to the audible code characters. Chiefs Summerlin and Moe had contests using the TG-65 cranked up full speed. Their capabilities were awesome to neophytes. ...Long live the International Morse code!

Morse, Corry and Matmen! - by Paul Keating

Plenty of good stories; lots of memories. Was a NUG late 60s doing a one year "4905" OJT (on-the-job training) tour and got to play with some of the gear that is so fondly remembered.

Wheatstone, Wheatstone, which was the Wheatstone?! Both the Morse punched tape reader and the impedance measuring device were "Wheatstone" by name. The first by company name (The Wheatstone Morse transmitter) and the second by inventor (the Wheatstone Bridge).

For high speed, there was the Boehme 5C which could demod-

ulate RTTY for a savvy op as well as bust out auto-Morse. Got to see and touch these lost jewels at Corry -crated up a couple of tape readers for disposal at NAS supply (after fixing them, of course: they had to be in operating condition); used the Wheatstone bridge for both "ringing out" coax cables/twisted pairs and checking de-energized circuits (those babies could really burn if juice was applied as they were mounted in a wooden case, too); and had the Boehme 5C as one of the finest paperweights on the PM (preventive maintenance) schedule! In the pre-3M days, we had our PM schedules on 3x5 index cards. The Boehme 5C's card had us blow the dust out of it, light it off to make sure the tubes glowed without and acrid aroma of burning carbon/insulation/whatever, and sweep some audio from an audio signal generator into the input to see if the "magic eye" tube on the front would indicate signal. Yes, a mighty fine paperweight in that matshop!

I learned my Morse on a Wheatstone, could stick 35s, and hated typewriters. Why, you ask? Had to repair those Underwood 5s that would come into the shop sans key tops, key levers, springs, carriages, etc. Used to have more mills down for key tops than anything (else). Never a problem with the old CXXNs -always had key tops for them, but could not

put them on the Underwoods on pain of death from the CTMI running the matshop... never could stand a mill after a stint in the typewriter shop...

Mills from Hell -by Bob Williams

...In A school, I remember spinning tapes, typing on "mills from hell," trying to make various speeds, and once, copying while I was dozing in the back row. I recall trying to copy code that sounded like it was sent by a well-intended drunk using a wooden spoon and a garbage can lid...

I agree that the guys who could copy at high speeds were pretty incredible but the R branchers who really impressed me were (and are) the ones who could handle multiple circuits at the same time often shouting out what was happening and still thinking clearly enough to get other members of the team doing what they had to do based on the available info.

With respect to the death of manual Morse, remember the movie "Independence Day!" The world beat the alien invaders with the help of Morse code (and an Apple/Macintosh computer).

(continued next page)

Morse, Big Rooms and Other Sea Stories from the NCVA Internet - From Page 2

Like MacArthur's Old Soldiers, 'Ditty Boppers' are Fading Away -by Keith Taylor

Originally in Navy Times.

Reprinted courtesy of the author.

...for the utmost in nostalgia, get a group of radiomen or cryptologic technicians together and remind them that Morse code is mostly dead, although the Navy will continue to teach it to signalmen and cryptologic technicians. The tears will flow, I tell you.

We Morse operators were a brotherhood. We knew how to do something a boatswain's mate or a ship's cook couldn't do. We could make sense out of noise. It wasn't noise to us, though. At worst, it could be a horrifying example of a semi-literate clod trying to transmit a message.

Oh, how we despised those guys who couldn't develop the swing that marked a good operator. But those who could get into the swing made music with the dits and dahs singing their song to a rhythm that made a fellow want to dance. He could dance to it, too, if he wasn't tethered to his receiver with cord hooked to a set of earphones. No serenade is prettier than a great operator in a groove rationing off message af-

ter message.

And for us "ditty boppers," the code was ubiquitous. I learned it in Norfolk, Virginia in the Fall of '47. A ship backing down would send an "S" with three dits. One in danger of collision an "H" four dits. And a New Year's Eve party of security group types! When the noisemakers came out, the air would fill with words those guys wouldn't have uttered in mixed company, and that from guys with such high clearance, too!

'Twas a wonderful way to slip messages past the officers, except for those who had come up through the ranks, of course. An eon or so ago in a radio shack at Bainbridge Island, Washington the coffee pot was in the basement. When the guy with the coffee duty made a new pot, he would signal "coffee done" with a hand key connected to an oscillator up by the supervisor's desk. The enlisted dudes who wanted a fresh cup of Joe would head below. The watch officer, a jaygee, got left out because his college education hadn't included Morse code. He could hear the oscillator, though, and soon caught on. When he heard it chirping away, he'd grab his cup and head for the basement. Then, it became great fun for somebody to transmit "Mr. Smith (a pseudonym) is a jackass." Away would go the jaygee with his cup to beat the

rush to an empty coffee pot.

Morse didn't just come to an end like most things. Like MacArthur's old soldiers, it is just sort of fading away. The huge antenna towers at Chollas Heights in San Diego, California came down in 1995. The towers at Annapolis, Maryland are still standing but are mute. I talked to an RM2 awhile back - he didn't know a dit from a dah. At a reunion of CTs in Virginia, we visited a security group activity. We were told that a few of our modern-day counterparts use Morse, but most didn't need it.

Then last week, an e-mail from...an old shipmate brought one more milestone. (He) wrote that as of February 1999 Morse would not even be used by large vessels in distress. Only a few others such as coastal freighters, fishing boats and pleasure craft still rely on it in time of trouble. I hope no operator on one of those smaller vessels ever has to blast out S.O.S. That used to stop radio traffic from friend and foe. It used to take something special to stand a radio watch. Today, a boatswain's mate could do it.

Now Morse is near the end. I'll just say di di di dah di dah. That's Morse for "I'm signing off."

(continued next page)

Sea Stories from the NCVA Internet - From Page 3

Morse, Big Rooms and Other Morse / I.B. -by Robert Ingram Powell

I spent a month at Chollas Heights during WWII and remember the place well... One of the transmitters still operating was the "J" Transmitter. A Franklin Alternator that transmitted somewhere around 16kcs could be heard all over the world like the Funabashi transmitter in Japan that kicked out the low freq NARAE FROM SATEKO4. Both were distinguished by their several hundred foot towers. Believe two of the towers at Chollas Heights were 600' and one at 300' when I was there. I would walk around the transmitter room with cans around my neck and touch any metal in the building and the signal would almost blow your eardrums.

When I was first at Imperial Beach, California (IB) in 1942, I operated the NPZ circuit from the DK building where TINA was operated from a curtained room on the side... Occasionally I brought up the 50kw transmitters at Chollas Heights using the land line Morse control circuit. Morse, not International Morse -although we used International Morse on the NPZ circuit and in contact with NPL...

It is important to mention that both Morse and International Morse "died" in the Marine world, but there are still a great many marine operators out there who can still pound brass, and will do so when push comes to shove! ...RIP W6VRO

Morse Still Alive! -by Grady Lewis

Three thousand CT's still use Morse code! An article in a recent issue of Navy Times by John Buriage makes that statement. According to Buriage CT's "are taught the code, just as they learn to operate high powered computers that let them collect and analyze state-of-the-art communications signals." Buriage also indicates that navy officials are "reluctant" to explain exactly why the CT's still need to learn the code.

NET NEWS

There's a Northern California SOWP net meeting every Monday and Thursday at 5:30 P.M. Pacific Local Time on the 75-Meter Ham band, 3947.5 KHZ. Open to all Hams. --Paul L. Wolf, W6RLP, SOWP 3041-M, Pres., SVC QCWA #169 (Sacramento Valley).

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

A warm "Welcome Aboard" to the following who have joined SOWP since our last issue.

(Add to Section I of your 1998 Wireless Register).

CUBILO, Kenneth M. 5648-M KC-Ken/Kathy W8OB (ex WN8DOI), 517 354-8291, 315 Cavanaugh Street, Alpena, MI 49707, kce@freeway.net, first assignment coastal station WLC.

THE HURRICANE MONTHS, AN OLD MARINERS SAYING...

Submitted by

Charles P. Krause

SOWP 1412-V, N7ESJ

June: too soon,
July: stand by,
August: look out you must,
September: remember,
October: all over.

If a hurricane threatens your town, don't just "beware" -- be "elsewhere"!

From a voice of experience.

The Secretary Remembers...

U S Navy Radio School in 1936 emphasized sending and receiving Morse Code by hand-key and headphones. Those who reached 20 wpm sending and 30 wpm receiving were given instruction in "radio materiel," simple electronic theory and equipment maintenance. Upon completion we were assigned to the seagoing Navy, to fill vacancies in the "radio shack" complement of destroyers, cruisers, battleships, submarines and aircraft. To advance in rating we studied manuals under the chief radioman, learning more theory and stuff the books don't teach, and "on watch" becoming capable of handling all types of circuits.

In 1941 something new was added. I was assigned to Houston Univ., for three months' advanced electronic theory and practice, fully expecting to be returned to the Fleet following completion. Instead, I was assigned to Treasure Island, San Francisco, radar engineering school, nine months of theory and practice. Morse played no part in either of these years, except to the extent that it was used as emergency underwater-sound communications (later called Sonar).

In radar theory and practice I

earned that nothing was exactly what I had been exposed to in the years preceding. To say that the revelations in the secret training were fascinating, amazing, mind-blowing is to put my response to the courses mildly. My first acquaintance with Lecher (don't go by the general dictionary definition!) transmission lines was my entrance into a new world of electronics, applicable to radar ultra-high frequencies. Fire-up a set of those parallel wires, place a light-bulb in series with a pair of metal rods extending horizontally in sliding contact with this transmission line, and slide the test-bulb from the far end of the wires to their input at the transmitter. The bulb will light every half wavelength, and extinguish at the nodes of the other half wavelengths. There is no voltage at some points, and yet sufficient current at other points to light the bulb. From this we learned that a conductor with 10,000 measurable volts at one position might well have zero volts measurable at another position with no metallic break in the lines. This revelation was but the first of many, and became the crux of my enthusiasm not only for Morse operating, but for the by then vital field of Radar.

In those early years radar transmissions were in the form of pulses of high frequency "RF" energy followed by equal-

duration "nothing." Obviously, digital electronics of today is not so new after all! Since Morse CW transmissions are likewise pulses of ON and OFF "RF" energy, the two forms of energy transmission are certainly more than kissin' cousins. There is no doubt but that those early radars could have been Morse Code modulated -albeit at lower power, since the magnetron oscillators at their heart achieved their multi-kilowatt outputs at very short pulse widths and relatively slow pulse rates. Average power might be as low as one or a dozen kilowatts while their instantaneous pulse outputs might be in megawatts.

One of the critical items we learned in radar theory was that the sharper the rise and fall times of the outgoing pulses, the wider the bandwidth required for transmission. Morse transmissions of high power stations included filtering to smooth (round-off) to some extent the beginnings and endings of the dits and dahs, to reduce what is better-known as unwanted "key clicks," or "splatter."

How brief may a pulse of energy be? In early radar, the pulses were on the order of milliseconds to as much as a second in special cases. A millisecond is one thousandth of one second. Later, with

(continued next page)

The Secretary Remembers...

From page 5

shorter-wavelength (higher frequency) radar it was not uncommon to use microsecond-length pulses (one microsecond equals one millionth of a second). In regular Morse operating tune our receivers to a specific setting, and copy incoming messages. The transmission frequency does not vary (we hope!). What would happen if, instead of sending and receiving on one specific frequency, we were to send each pulse on a *different* frequency? Assuming that we could "code" in advance the position of each incoming pulse such that the receiver's tuning would be moved to meet each pulse, at the Morse receiving position you and your headphones would not need to know that you were using spread spectrum techniques, involving a very wide band indeed. Likewise any other kind of receiver: be in the right place each time a pulse comes in, translated to video for instance, and you will see the result as though it had all been sent on a single identical frequency!

Now speed the process of "frequency jumping" to kilobits per second. You certainly would be unable to hand-tune your receiver from point to point that quickly -you'd obviously miss all but one of the pulses. The total

message would be unintelligible. In fact, you'd not even get one letter of the message - everything would be lost in the background noise. And thereby exists some very startling progress that has been made in communications the past few years. What a great system for sending secret messages! If, simplifying the actual practice, each pulse were to be sent phase-lagging, in-phase, or phase-leading, you'd have at least three parameters with which to encipher your pulse frequency. The receiver could be coded to "follow" a simple change system such as lag-inphase-lead-recycle. Take it from there. Add complication until it is worth no one's time and effort to discover your "code." You now have today's "spread-spectrum" techniques in action.

New Kid on the Block

Let's take it a big step further. Consider the unthinkable a dozen years ago; let's open the doors wide. Let's extend the borders of spread-spectrum beyond the borders of dozens of frequency allocations, across the "bands" (including those of the presently-assigned amateur bands also?) assigned to others for a half-century or more. From preliminary indications, no one would be "bothered" except in principle. That's one of the almost incredible things about spread-spectrum techniques - the only interference

result is an infinitesimal increase in background "noise," not even noticeable without special measurement techniques.

This may be likened to the surprise that accompanied the early adoption of frequency modulation broadcasting - if you drive your car from one transmitter to another where broadcasting is taking place on the same or very near-by frequency, your FM receiver will automatically relinquish the first and grab onto the nearest signal. It happens from time to time when driving across country. Your FM receiver tuned to a PBS station in one city will "capture" a relay station of PBS some miles away, and you won't realize that you aren't actually receiving the big-city transmission direct from its antenna tower because the exact same program is being broadcast from both antennas, miles apart.

Radar grew from milliwatt transmissions to megawatt in a few short years, and today "moon-bounce" techniques use high-power indeed. Suppose, instead, we see what's available in milliwatt and microwatt transmissions, using modern digital techniques. Be prepared for another wave of amazing, the unbelievable, science-fiction cum reality. It's called Digital Pulse Radio technology, UWB, acronym for
(continued next page)

The Secretary Remembers... From page 6

Ultra-Wide-Band radio invented by Larry Fullerton of Time Domain Corporation of Huntsville, Alabama. Radar went to great pains to operate on a single, closely held frequency. UWB "goes wild," but with ultra-low-power transmissions across a very wide bandwidth indeed.

Here is a statement from the W5YI Report of June 15 2000: "Time Domain's technology is similar to a Morse code system that switches on and off 40 million times a second. And unlike traditional radio signals... each pulse of ultra-wide band is transmitted across a wide portion of the radio spectrum, so that a minute amount of energy is radiated at any single frequency."

Strange things happen at the high frequencies, digital pulses, and the low powers employed in these systems. Firemen look through a brick or cement wall to see if anyone is trapped in the building before risking their own lives to rescue someone perhaps already outside. Think about Kosovo's land mines that are crippling and killing people to this day -these can be spotted and destroyed from a safe distance away. Buried cable long since forgotten can be found. And, of course, wireless appliances are already

appearing within the home - eliminating telephone, cable, television and radio wire connections. Another use, according to the W5YI report, is by U S Marines for covert communications.

I feel sometimes like one of the runners who has carried the torch for the Olympic Games. Morse was the acme of communications technology for messaging in my youth, and I just happened to have a set of ears capable of differentiating between long and short bursts of sound (not all of those in my Navy Morse Code class made it through graduation). As members of SOWP you, too, were (and are to this day, no doubt) one of the human code receivers and translators. Although messaging has advanced beyond anyone's hearing capability, I am experiencing once again the thrill of discovery, akin to that of receiving my first Morse transmission in full and copy-perfect. The torch we carried has lighted the far horizon beyond my science-fiction dreams. And, somehow, I have a hunch that horizon won't go away, that we "ain't seen nothin' yet!" It's like driving towards a mountain across an Arizona or New Mexico desert... looks like it's only an hour away but hours later, although larger, it's still that hour ahead.

73 Walt.

COLOR A BIT LATER

Four lashes coming to me on my bare back, at the mainmast! Sorry, folks, re the promised color front page. The explanation is purely economic: Too expensive --would have cost us the December issue of the Beacon just for the single color job. There has to be a better way, and we'll find it. When December comes around, funnel your 100th Birthday greetings to Bill via the Headquarters address or via e-mail, and I'll get them to Bill in one single package as close to February 6th as possible. If you want to send a card via FAX, e-mail a date and approximate time and I'll respond with the FAX phone number and have the machine on-line at that time. Further, I'll exchange the black/white ink cartridges for color for that day, or that night.

--73

Walt Boyd

...SEEN ON THE INTERNET

Every thing that was ever invented is still with us in some way. In fact, that is how progress is made in advancing technologies - the continuous building of new technology on the foundation lain

(continued next page)

...SEEN ON THE INTERNET
- From Page 7

by the old. But, the old always remains, often in the form of incorporations into advancing technologies, sometimes still in its original form or some form which has been modified by continued work in that area, like someone coming up with new circuits which use vacuum tubes in ways that were never used before. But nothing is ever lost, because, it never has less usefulness than it ever had. And when all other means fail, one can always go back to it.

Time spend grieving over the loss of old times is wasted time and effort. In a way it's like grieving over a child who has become a grownup.

Some of the best flintlock rifles, every made in history, are being crafted by flintlock lovers, today. Some of the best biplanes are flying today that were ever built. If there can be room for biplanes and flintlocks and chariots and sailing ships in our modern world, than, surely, there can be room for CW radio operations. Even amongst hams, today, I don't see any body grieving over the loss of spark/arc radio operations.

Maybe we just miss the things we are most recently familiar with, because we still enjoy doing them

and don't want to stop.

But, who said we had to? There are more balloons flying today than there ever was at one time, before.

The only reason CW radio will disappear is that EVERYONE is in agreement that it should. So, fire the rigs up and man the keys, or silent band will give somebody the idea that CW is actually obsolete and now an archaic form of communications.

I typed this without my glasses, I hope that it makes sense. Cw never made my eyes go to pot like computers have!

73's Conrad, W7WLM

Jeffrey Herman wrote:

The FCC's web site shows that 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class R/T licenses are still available, and that having a current Amateur Extra Class will automatically give you credit for Telegraph Elements 1 (16wpm, random groups) and 2 (20wpm, plain text); Elements 1 and 2 are required for the 3rd and 2nd Class ticket.

Go to: www.fcc.gov/wtb/comm-operators/Welcome.html

Don't know how much longer those licenses will be available, but getting one would enable a

person to keep a firm grip on our past, which seems to be quickly slipping away.

73, Jeff KH6O

**CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO
THE WIRELESS
REGISTER - 1998**

Changes are given on a page-by-page basis so they can be marked into your personal copy.

page 15 - correct phone number and address, Gustafsson, Birgitta 3854-M, +46(0)221 246 58, Byjordsgatan 3 B, 4 SE-731 33 KOPING, Sweden

page 17 - change address, HUDELSON, John 5607-M P.O. Box 21, Carmine, TX 78932

page 48 - Brehm, Joshua J. 3109-V
AE2L ae2l@arrl.net

page 49 - Friedmann, Donald C. 4950-M W3QYL donfriedmann@home.com and w3qyl@arrl.net
- Gustafsson, Birgitta 3854-M birgitta.gustafsson.221@telia.com

page 50 - Newbold, Alexander S. 2407-V W6MMG w6mmg@juno.com
- Portwine, Richard G. 2426-M N1BQL portwine@smtc.net

page 51 - Ryder, William C. 3477-P W1KL wryder@capecod.net

MEMBER E-MAIL ADDRESSES

1529-M ABBIT, James H.	abbits@mail.usmo.com
5074-M ADSIT, Frederick V.	ny2v fred@juno.com
5632-V ALGRANT, James J.	pajim@ime.net
3204-M ALLEN, Mr. William T.	ballen@isle.net
5561-V AMODEO, Larry	w2ax@compuserve.com
5451-TA BADER, Clifford J.	cjbader@aol.com
5637-TA BAIRD, David	WA9PDS@poltec.net
1442-V BAKER, Earl C.	K6MG@gate.kb5ggo.ampr.org
5598-TA BARMORE, Roberta J.	rbarmore@indy.net
3509-V BARRETT, Wylie (NMI)	wbarrett@auracom.com
4451-M BERG, Kenneth A.	VE7KEN@cnx.net
5533-TA BERRY, James R.	jrberry@juno.com
5564-M BESENYEI, Robert	bobNT8X@rocketmail.com
5539-M BIGSETH, Odd-Gunnar	la2td@c2i.net
3189-M BODE, Jon H.	JONBODE@EMAIL.MSN.COM
3665-M BOGERT, Bruce P.	bpbogert@shore.net
5605-M BOGNER, DAVID W.	WA7EES@gte.net
5644-M BOHNOVIC Jr., John Jr.	k4wj@arrl.net
2958-P BOYD, Waldo T.	K6DZY@netdex.com
5157-TA BREIDT, Frank J.	idpklib@nidlink.com
2494-P BROCKDORF, Carl R.	cbrocng@pathwaynet.com
2334-M BROOKS, Harry A., Jr.	N1PGBrooks@aol.com
5596-V BROWN, Roy C.	wa2tws@ptd.net
4981-M CALDERAZZO, Mark A.	mcaldera@ix.netcom.com
4857-M CALLAWAY Jr, Edgar	jan0@adelphia.net
5174-M CAMMARATA, Alfred J.	w3awu@juno.com
4958-M CARAVELLO Jr., Jesse W.	W8MCP@ix.netcom.com
4998-M CARTER, Jeffry A.	aquarius214@email.com
5526-TA CASALE, John J.	JCSL@global2000.net
2806-P CHAMBERS, William E.	w7byk@juno.com
5536-TA CHITTINA, Cheryl P.	mark@ll.net
5170-M CIZEK, Michael G.	w3mc@toad.net
5583-M COWLING, Scott H.	dfi@cyberhighway.net
5626-M CROSSLAND, Ross S.	rossgolf@flash.net
4557-V DALE, Henry G.	gdale@myworldmail.com
3301-P D'ANGELO, Laurence N.	AB6E@dangelo.net --qsl.net
5033-M D'EAU CLAIRE, Ron	rondec@bigfoot.com
3143-V DENNIS, William A.	iparc2@landmarknet.net
5516-TA DIETZ, John J.	w2bfu@prodigy.com
3980-V DI MENTO, Joseph V.	joevd@earthlink.net
5567-M DOLE Jr., Ronald D.	kalefo@qsl.net
5614-P DOWDEN, David	KB7SVA@kalama.com
5122-V DOWLING, Kenneth T.	w6yco@webtv.net
5622-TA DUFFY, Tim J.	K3LR@contesting.com
5631-M DUNN, Douglas R.	doug@wtp.net

392-V EBERLEIN, G. Donald	w6yhm@juno.com
5580-P EDMISTON, Paul C.	paul@edmiston.org
4114-V EDWARDS, Charles W.	waltdx@webtv.net
5610-M EDWARDS, Jan R	sparks@communique.net
3634-V ELDRIDGE, Robert C.	ve7bs@rac.ca
5633-M ESTRADA, Frank	festrada@prodigy.net
4853-V FARNSWORTH, Douglas B.	DWGFAR@juno.com
1591-V FARRANCE, Jack	lujack68@aol.com
4136-M FESPERMAN, Charles D.	Taney55@aol.com
1664-P FLOOK, LtCol Kenneth G.	KGFWASOBSECTR@juno.com
5603-TA FRANKLIN, Dennis G.	K6DF@home.com
5647-TA FRANKO, Michael A.	easton7@frontiernet.com
3836-M FRIEL, James J.	jfriel@state.de.us (business)
5640-M FRIEND III, Frederick A.	7723412@frontiernet.net
5101-M FULTON, Donald G.	dgfulton@tstonramp.com
2673-M GALONSKI, LtJg Adolph E.	KC1W@arrl.net
0180-V GALVEZ, William	wgalvez370@aol.com
2572-V GANN, William C.	flbroker@arc.net
5590-M GARBE, Michael G.	garbelab@freeway.net
5646-M GARY, William R.	K8CSG@arrl.net
5573-HN GATTS, Paul	pgatts@earthlink.com
4627-V GAVIN, Gerald R.	K2ILQ@aol.com
3370-V GLASS, FRANK W.	K6RQ@juno.com
5144-M GRIFFITH, David	jandav@enterprise.net
0276-M GROZINSKI Jr., Martin J.	mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
3854-M GUSTAFSSON, Ms. Birgittabirgitta.gustafsson.221@telia.	
4029-V HADAD, Alexander S.	AA6SB@Juno.com
5146-V HAMILTON, Walter J.	LITTLE KAHOONA@prodigy.net
5535-TA HAMLET, Carroll A.	70661.114@compuserve
5595-TA HARRIS, Robert A.	bg131@lafn.org
5190-M HARROP, Angela M.	ve7ang@imp.net
5615-V HENDRICK, William L.	bchendrick@aol.com
3708-V HENSON, Marion J.	marionh@jps.et
4968-M HICKMAN, Robert E.	rhickman@seacove.net
5620-TA HILL, John B.	w5hx@mindspring.com
3972-V HOEPPER, Laurence E.	hoep@juno.com
5579-M HOGIN, William S.	wshogin@primenet.com
4992-M HOLL, Michael	holl@az.com
5602-V HONEA, Walter M.	W4HM@Juno.com
5607-M HUDELSON, JOHN R	jhudelson@ieee.org
3268-M HUTCHINS, Michael G. D.	z11mh@extra.co.nz
3612-V JACKSON, William T.	w6hdp@primenet.com
5630-M JAWORSKI, Thomas P.	Gridsq@aol.com
5606-TA JEFFERSON, C PAUL	cpjeff@together.com
5624-TA JEFFRIES, James B.	j5htjj@juno.com
5643-TA JEUTTER, Dean C	k3ggn@execc.com
5600-TA JOHNSON, Galen W.	Galen@mail.com

523-M JOHNSON, Hilary F. klhgk@bit-net.com
4307-V JOHNSON, Robert W. sailfish@snowcrest.net
3217-V KAPAGIAN, Vahan dkappy@i2k.com
4586-M KAPITANY, Laszlo lkapi@aol.com
5195-TA KEEL, Aubrey E. keelkb0ze@aol.com
2581-P KELLEHER, John J. w4zc@mail.clark.net
4190-V KEMPER, John P. kementelcom@aol.com
3642-V KENNEDY, David D. davekennedy@juno.com
5574-TA KLEINMAN M.D., Russell sparks@zignet.com
5547-TA KOFLER, Richard B. krazycat@prodigy.com
3345-M KOOISTRA III, Hessel hess@flash.net
5548-TA KOTT, Nancy A. nanc@tir.com
3043-V LALLY, John F. wlhdc@telplus.net
3135-V LANE, Robert W. rlane@mail.coln.missouri.edu
5197-M LEACH, Samuel E. nwp_nhk3@mail.ameritez.net
3038-M LEIST, James J. jjkb5w@mindspring.com
3138-M LION, Robert fammacrl@aol.com
5156-M LION, Robert fammacrl@aol.com
4402-V LODATO, Joseph S. w5iia@bellsouth.net
4792-V LONIS, Maynard J. mjlphoenixny@webtv.net
3358-M LOVIE, Iain G. B. Iain@ship-photos.com
1963-P MACDONALD, Daniel A. dmacdon609@aol.com
4726-M MACLEOD, Donald W. wmacleod@fox.nstn.ca
2064-M MAIA, Frederick O. fmaia@internetMCI.com
4987-V MARCHETTO, Albert V. ALMARHAM@aol.com
5554-V MARSH, Wilfred B. K3AS@delanet.com
2964-V MAURSTAD, Raymond B. mevam@idt.net
4979-V MAXWELL, Walter W2DU@IAG.net
4659-V MAYER, George E. gemayer@fiber-net.com
1444-P MCAVOY, R. A. rmcavoy@copperhill.com
3035-V MCCARTHY, Edward A. emccarthy@cyberportal.net
5619-TA MCGAVRAN JR, Harry G. w5pny@worldnet.att.net
5584-M MCMAHON, Owen H. mmcmahon@interconnect.net
5588-P MELLINGER, Paul R. ni6p@jps.net
2313-M METCALFE, William wmetcalf@planet.con.net
3851-M MIKALSEN, Per A. permikal@online.no
1089-P MILLER, Albert H. almillervip.net
5623-M MILLER, David W. dmillermail.canac.com
4999-V MILLER, Grier B. klgold@aol.com
3924-V MILLER, William R. ptmiller@hotmail.com
5171-TA MOE, Larry R. moes@fyiowa.infi.net
5618-V MORGAN, Joseph F. joew5prv@ktc.com
4071-P MUSICK, Josiah C. KD4XT@BSC.net
3239-M NASH, Douglas B. dnash32906@aol.com
5530-M NICHOLS MD, Lester E. K6BJO@juno.com
5140-M O'BRIEN, Thomas J. tjob@juno.com
5534-M OSS, James D. slnxavj@connectinc.com

965-M OSTROWSKI, R. J. n2na@somtel.com
4929-M OTTEN, W. J. ott@pacifier.com
2310-P PALMER, George A. K7EF@aol.com
5587-TA PARDUE Jr., Joseph E. K5HLR@jep.com
5527-TA PENISTEN, Douglas K. penisten@cherokee.nsuok.edu
4128-M PERSSON, Bertil B. bertil.persson@mbox336.swipnet
2877-V PESTYK, Val F. valp@gpfn.sk.ca
0376-V PETERSON, Jack B. jbp1@juno.com
0881-P PHELPS, Theodore K. w8tp@juno.com
5558-M PLADSEN, Glenn W. v3lry@ix.netcom.com
4983-M PRATT Jr., James E. jim.pratt@aethos.com
5055-V PROPST, Wyatt E. k4ptu@infoave.net
4711-M RAUCH, Arthur w4vz@herald.infi.net
5037-P RAYNER, Donald W. donalray@floodcity.net
5143-P READ, Gordon D. W4YIH@earthlink.net
5498-TA RECK, Samuel H. n4ps@bellsouth.net
4464-V REDDING, J. Malcolm reddingm@nbnet.nb.ca
2491-M REESE, Warren T. Radions@neteze.com
4984-M REEVE, Norris S. nsn@lesoff.co.za
3659-P REID, Larry L. reid@travelin.com
5639-M REINHOLD, Donald L. DRein71599@aol.com KOGOR@Juno.
5092-P ROGERS, Haden Earle 102041.563@compuserve.com
5585-TA ROGOZINSKI, Anthony M. mjgrozi@postoffice.ptd.net
5638-M ROSKE, Robert A. WA0CLR@worldnet.att.net
2757-P ROWE, Arthur V. k7ha@mail.olympen.com
5604-TA RUOCCO, Giulio GRuocco308@aol.com
1853-V RUSSELL, Benjamin J. N6SL@communique.net
4891-M SCHALLENBERG, Van H. schallev@juno.com
4278-M SCHULTZ Jr, Henry L. wi3u@worldnet.att.net
0157-SGP SHRADER, Robert L. w6bnb@aol.com
1682-M SHUMAN, Philip B. p.shuman.stcroix@worldnet.att.
2772-M SIEBERT, Ralph G. kltv@hotmail.com
2068-V SILVERN, Dr. Leonard C. k6rxv@arrl.net
0662-M SINGER, Richard H. rolmbw@rmi.net
4186-V SNOW, William E. w6uuc@aol.com
4058-P SPENCER, Charles E. w8pgo@compuserve.com
5635-M SPRENGER, Wolfgang WFS.PLANET@t-online.de
1893-P STAPLES, Roy rstaples@eagle.ca
5545-M STARK, Monte R. KU7Y@sage.dri.edu
2927-V STEPHENS, Clyde R. reddstep@aol.com
5147-V SUGGS, William A. W2RPH@juno.com
5088-M SVANHOLM, Johan K. V. N3RF@aol.com
5531-TA SWIDERSKI, Glenn kiml@vcn.com
2460-P TIBBETTS, James G. sparks19@juno.com
4069-M TOWNER, Frederick H. townerf@cyberlink.bc.ca
4614-V TREADWAY, Nelson W. duke1098@juno.com
2597-V TURIK, Michael turik@windsor.igs.net

924-M WARREN, James R.	jrwarren1@compuserve.com
2259-M WEBB, David J.	david@oceanroseb-b.com
3586-V WELLS, Milbert A.	ootc@juno.com
5613-TA WILCOX, JAMES M.	w3wv@worldnet.att.net
2841-M WILSON Jr., Earl D.	earlw@goldrush.com
2660-M WILSON, Robert C.	AL7KK@alaska.net
4743-M WOOD, William H.	nnn0was@frontiernet.net
3581-M ZBROZEK, Michael	k8xf@gte.net
5616-M ZIELINSKI, Donald P.	k0pv@odsy.net
5616-M ZIELINSKI, Donald P.	k0pv@odsy.net

**ROUNDUP
CORRESPONDENCE**

Editor:

Had a great time in the SOWP Roundup. The band conditions were fair. I expected 20, 15 and 10 to be wide open, but it did not happen that way... Maybe next year HI HI.

Have a good Holiday Season and keep up the good work.

73

Johnny Vasicak
SOWP 1140-V, W9ZEN

Editor:

The 99 Roundup is over and had a great time working 67 contacts. Five on 3 or more bands. Amazing what can be accomplished with an Omni 6-plus and a G5RV up about 25 feet. Great to work all the old timers. Guess I'm an old timer myself since I'am 85 and have had tickets since 1935.

Keep up the good work. Season's greetings to you and yours.

Bill Werner
SOWP 4528-V, W3FYK

SOWP

Seem like everything is getting slow. Must be closing of CW or Y2K. Hope QSO Roundup was well attended. I forgot it. I listened last year. Best regards for the Holidays.

73

E. Patacchiola
SOWP 3235-P, W1MCG

Editor:

Was just reading the Beacon and saw the QSO Roundup was on. Went on 7050 and worked 4 or 5 stations!

73

Ken Palmer
SOWP 0887-V, K2FJ

**MORSE CODE GONE
by Saul Yochelson**

--Reprinted by permission from the
September 1999
The Anchor Light, journal of the U.
S. Merchant
Marine Veterans of World War II,
San Pedro, Calif.

Ships, Radio, and Morse Code have been tightly interwoven since almost the day that radio was discovered. Radios were first aboard ships before the turn of the (20th) Century. The first CQD (the original distress signal) was sent in 1909 and most everyone has heard about SOS being sent from the Titanic in 1912. In all of these situations the signals were sent as dots and dashes -- the Morse Code.

But as of midnight, July 13 1999 (Greenwich time: July 12 1999 at 5:00 PM PST) this was ended, at least in North America. At that time the last shore stations that received and sent commercial messages via Morse Code shut down their Morse Code operations (KFS and KPH on the West
(continued next page)

MORSE CODE GONE - From Page 13

Coast, and WLO in the Gulf).

In view of the historical importance of this event, the shut-down of an almost 100-year operation, Globe Wireless, the owner of the stations, organized a commemorative ceremony. The key event was the transmission of the last paid Morse Code message from a ship: from the Jeremiah O'Brien in San Francisco to KFS. Veteran shore operators were at the Globe facility in Half Moon Bay while a bunch of Radio Officers gathered on the ship. The ship's Chief Radio Officer, Rod Deakin, who is also the Chief Engineer of Globe Wireless, sent a message addressed to President Clinton using the ship's original Morse Code transmitter... It described the shut-down and concluded with the same message sent by Samuel F. B. Morse in 1844 when he first demonstrated the telegraph: "What hath God wrought?"

Interestingly, when the message was received by the Morse Code operator in Half Moon Bay, it was sent on to the White House by E-Mail.

Participating in the ceremony aboard the Jeremiah O'Brien were two radio officers from the SS Lane Victory. (Saul Yochelson

and Jay Flynn.)

From the early days of the (20th) Century through the two World Wars, Morse Code was the language used between ships, and between ships and shore stations. Relatively simple and slow, but very reliable when used by skilled operators, it was used for sending messages around the globe even though the range that a ship could transmit was usually three or four hundred miles or less on the low frequencies that were then available. Ships relayed other ships' messages, or messages would be sent to nearby shore stations for relay via land facilities. In North America alone there were dozens of shore stations to which ships could send messages.

But technology moved on. High frequency "short-wave" facilities were installed on ships, allowing longer range contacts. Teletype-like facilities were installed and, in recent years, satellite systems were installed on many ships. E-mail is available now on most ships at sea. But until recently Morse Code facilities were required aboard ocean-going ships for safety and distress communications.

A more modern distress and safety communications system, called the General Marine Distress Signaling System (GMDSS) was conceived in the early 1990's,

taking advantage of modern technology, incorporating computers, modern radio facilities and satellites. The shipboard equipment to support GMDSS varies with the region where the ship sails. For example, if a ship sails more than 200 miles from shore, its GMDSS configuration must include a satellite radio system in addition to conventional high frequency (HF) and very high frequency (VHF) gear. Note that equipment for operation on the medium frequency (MF) bands (500 kHz and down), which used to be the main ship communication frequencies, is not required.

With a GMDSS system installed on a ship an operator needs only to push a button to generate a distress signal; the hardware automatically activates the appropriate radio to send off the signal via HF radio or satellite, all done automatically. Integrated with most GMDSS shipboard installations are automatic teletype-like functions. To send a conventional message the operator types it into the computer and, again, just pushes a button to send it (on its way). Similarly, each ship is assigned a unique ID number and shore-to-ship messages are received automatically.

The International Marine Organization, a UN agency, mandated that GMDSS systems be installed
(continued next page)

MORSE CODE GONE - From Page 14

on all commercial ships after February 1, 1999, to satisfy safety-at-sea needs... Conversely, the mandatory requirement for Morse Code equipment was dropped, although ships can still use Morse Code if they can find another station that will respond.

Over the years the number of shore radio stations that communicated with Morse Code shrank and their operations were centralized. By (Summer 1999) only the four stations mentioned were generally available to receive and send Morse Code messages in North America. All are owned by the Globe Wireless Company and... all are controlled from one central operating site located near Half Moon Bay, just south of San Francisco. The operators on duty there can control even the East Coast stations, by remote control.

The amount of paid traffic going through these remaining stations dwindled to almost zero, especially after the February 1st GMDSS date. Globe Wireless shut down all Morse Code operations on July 13th. There are only two small Morse Code stations in Northern Canada and they are scheduled to shut-down (after the 1999 summer season). Morse is probably still used only by a few

maller ships in the Far East.

For all practical purposes, ship-board Morse Code is gone (though not entirely forgotten).

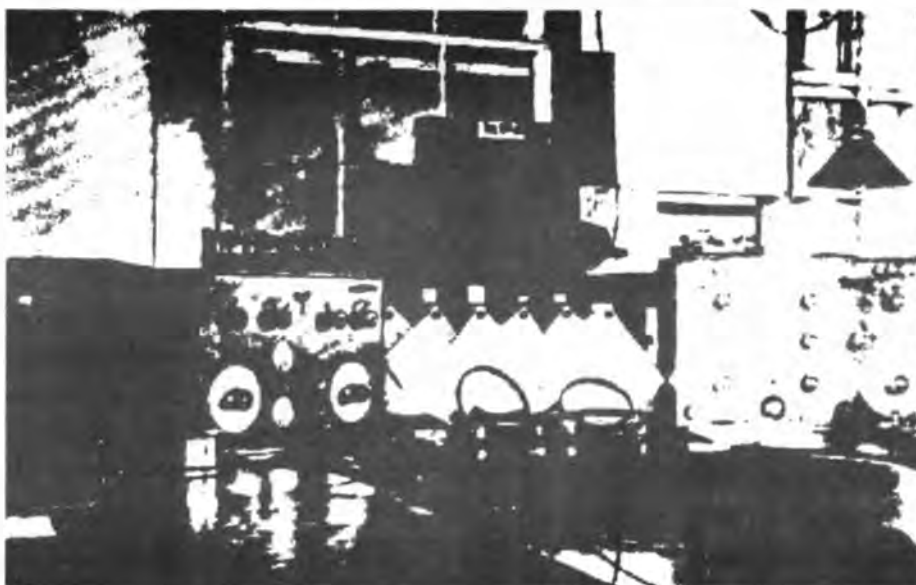
SWAN ISLAND 'US'
(from *Sparks Journal*)
by William Jackson
SOWP 3612-V, W6HDP

SWAN ISLAND is a small coral island situated in the Western Caribbean at Latitude 17°22' N, and Longitude 83°57' West. None but the most detailed maps show the island as it is only about two miles long and a half mile wide. The highest point on the island is some fifty feet above thesea. A good portion is covered by a coconut grove of about 8000

trees. The rest of the island is wooded with a variety of trees and underbrush. Most of the shoreline is of a sharp coral rocks and cliffs. Several Sand beaches are found on all sides of the island.

The island is about 900 miles south of New Orleans and some 90 miles northwest of Coretes, Honduras. It is one of the most beautiful islands in all the world --- a poet's dream, except during hurricane season. [these words are not Ye Ed's]

Swan Island was named after its English discoverer, Captain Swan, Pre-UFCo there were no people on Swan except an old
(continued next page)



OPERATING POSITION - SWAN ISLAND ("US") - 1920
Receiver at left was designed and built by Operator A.E. Hapeman; One at right, "Battleship Type" [IP-500] WSA Co. designed



SWAN ISLAND - Shipline view - 1920 - S.Paul Photo

SWAN ISLAND 'US' - From Page 16

gentleman who called himself Captain Adams. He was in charge of the Swan Island Commercial Company, a U.S. Coprn., which owned all 1300 acres of the island - and perhaps wished it didn't. Captain Adams had a dozen or so natives of the Cayman's as laborers, who dug phosphate shale for intermittent export. They also fished, hunted game and spent part of their time harvesting coconuts for a living.

Swan Island should become a 'memorial' to Mack Musgrave who engineered the first installation of a radio station there. It took him nearly 8 months to overcome lightering ashore of the heavy equipment on the open sea from anchorages a mile or so off shore. Finally late in 1907 the station with its 10 K.W. Spark was finally commissioned.

The site on Swan Island was selected as a relay point for traffic between New Orleans and Cen-

tral American stations. It quickly developed that due to intense static, signals not be relied upon to get through to maintain reliable communications so power at "US" was increased with new equipment.

SOWP member STEPHEN PAULL (1453-V) was assigned to Swan Island by the U.S. Weather Bureau along with observers Harold Crutcher and George Barnes to re-establish a weather station on the island. They commissioned station "WWFL" and furnished regular meteorological reports from Swan Island. "Steve" Paul reported that Mr. Donald Glidden was caretaker of the island for United Fruit Company. This was in 1941. He also informed us that 'humidity' and 'flying salt spray' caused them the biggest problem, especially with equipment and corrosion thereof.

Reporting on 'flora and fauna' of the island, "Steve" said ... "who can forget the iguanas, rats and lizards? The iguanas are all over

the island, and being vegetarians, make their ugly appearance in gardens and coconut trees feeding on plants and coconut blossoms. Rats make their appearance known at night by mysterious noises which were usually attributed to 'Captain Swan's ghost'.

The lizards are the best friends of the animal kingdom. Realizing that they are largely responsible for reducing the insect and mosquito population, we didn't mind at all if occasionally one of these comical little creatures was found perched on the microphone or typewriter. They are so very curious that I had a mind to teach

(continued next page)



STEPHEN PAULL - 1453-V
Served as Weather Observer for the U.S. Weather Bureau on Swan Island 1940-41.. His Swan Island call was **KD4GYM**. He now lives in **Marquette, Michigan**. Call -- **N4SP**.

SWAN ISLAND 'US' - From Page 16

one of them the code and let him do my CQ'ing for me on CW".

'Steve' spent two years on the island during which time he operated KD4GYM.

MEMBER CORRESPONDENCE

Editor:

I am enclosing one of my QSL cards for your SOWP web page. It might help fill some empty space.

I do enjoy reading the World Wireless Beacon and it really brings back some long dormant memories. Hope that you folks will be able to continue publishing it.

One of these days I will try to get my thoughts together (it is not as easy as it used to be .. hi) and see if I can jot down some of the experiences that I have had over the past years. Some of them were humorous and some not so funny ... especially during during World War II when I was on board a "baby" flat top (USS Kitkun Bay, CVE-71). I had been on active duty for nearly five years in the U.S. Navy, starting at Lakehurst NAS, then to Midway

Island and finally aboard the CVE-71 for the remainder of the war. I started out as a Radioman Second Class (because of having a First Class Radiotelegraph ticket) and went through the ranks to finally become a Chief Radio Electrician which was a Chief Warrant Officer. guess that's it for now so since I am not into computers, I still use "snail mail" and will try to stay in touch as the spirit moves me.

73

Norm Dalling
SOWP 5634-P, W3BLN

P.S. - By the way, what does the "P" represent in my member number?

Sec. note: Norm: From the early days of the Society, the "P" designation stood for "Pioneer." The designations are assigned by the date of your first radio-telegraph job for pay. Here is the official list of dash designations:

(SSGP) SENIOR SPARK-GAP PIONEER - service prior to 1915.

(SGP) SPARK-GAP PIONEER - service 1915 to 1925, inclusive.

(P) PIONEER - service 1926 to 1939, inclusive.

(V) VETERAN - service 1940 to

1949, inclusive.

(M) MEMBER - service 1950 to date.

(TA) TECHNICAL ASSOCIATE - teachers, readers to the blind, radio engineers, and historians.

Editor:

I have finished my present assignment here in San Antonio and will move into retirement. Looking forward to redeveloping my radiotelegraph skills. Should be settled in a couple of months.

The last issue of the "Beacon" was another fine one.

vy 73

John Hudelson
SWOP 5607-M, K5DL

Editor:

Just received December Beacon - great reading. Here is a donation that may help.

73

Bob Shrader
SOWP 0157-SGP, W6BNB

(continued next page)

MEMBER CORRESPONDENCE - From Page 17

Editor:

I want to thank you and your staff for the extra effort in providing us old ship R/O great stories and latest R/O info. I often think of the days during World War II. Made eight crossings and came back alive. Hope to make 75 this year. Keep up the good work.

Well appreciated.

yours

Joe Licari
SOWP 4977-V, K4JEF

Editor:

Belated December issue very interesting but turned off by the CNO message on page 4. No self-respecting radioman of my generation would want to be known as an: Information Systems Technician.

Enclosing my QSL as suggested on page 8

My last Call Sign Book is years old. An old timer asked me a few weeks ago why I'm still listed as a novice in the current book. Is that so? Got my General ticket May 11, 1998.

Interesting letter on page 9 from Charlie Spencer.

73

J.J. Murray
SOWP 5016-P, KB7LOH

Sec. response:

JJ:

You are KB7LOH in our latest (1998) Register. As an old Navy man I agree with you. apparently they no longer differentiate between techs and operators. There's a "...right way, a wrong way, and the Navy way" of doing anything under the sun.

If you wait patiently we hope to have a Year 2000 Register for everyone this year.

73

Walt.

SILENT KEYS

With Deep Regret, we report the passing of the following SOWP members as they join our Chapter Eternal. We send our sincere sympathies to those they held dear.

CHEZEM, Curtis G. 4330-V, WN7K, Eugene, OR. No date or details. Reported in *QCWA Journal*, Spring 2000.

CONLEY, Wilfred H. 4656-V, W8CZR, Van Wert, OH. No date or details. Reported in *QCWA Journal*, Spring 2000.

DALBY, John E. 0681-P, W5COE, Oklahoma City, OK. No date or details. Reported in *Spark Gap Times*, April 2000.

FOLWELL, Edward J. 4468-P, VE7FTU, Victoria, BC, Canada. No date or details. Reported by Estate Officer.

GERVAIS, Gerald L. 3316-V, N2GG, Moira, NY. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

HANSEN, Fred 3488-V, W6SMD, San Pedro, CA. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

HEID, Joseph Anthony 4387-P, Mount Vernon, CA. 20 January 2000, no details. Spent two tours of duty in the United States Navy, from 1928 to 1931 and from 1942 to 1945 as a radio operator and repair technician. Reported by his wife Stella Cawthon-Heid.

(continued next page)

SILENT KEYS - From Page 18

HENDRICK, William 5615-V, W7YUY, Eugene, OR. 03 January 2000 of heart failure. Served in the Army Air Corps as a radioman on B29 bombers during World War II. Reported by Waldo T. Boyd SOWP 2958-P, K6DZY.

ISENHOWER, Harold W. 3643-V, W5EAW, Albuquerque, NM. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

JACOBS, Frank 1166-P, W2BSL, Fair Oaks, CA. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

LEACH, Gene 4322-V, W6OLL, San Ramon, CA. 08 April 2000, no details. Was with Pan American from 1940 till the end of World War II. He worked at Midway Island as a radio operator then went to radio shop on Treasure Island. Then he went south until he left for Auckland. He was on watch on the California clipper when he received the message about Pearl Harbor, 07 December 1941. The clipper landed at Auckland and they were told go home westward around the world. They did, and Gene helped write the book, "The Long Way Home." Reported by Carl Antone SOWP 4362-V, W6OZA.

ARRINER, Wesley E. 5304-TA, W9AND, Lutz, FL. No date or details. Reported in *Spark Gap Times*, April 2000

MUNSELL, Edward F. 4280-V, K6CL, Los Angeles, CA. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

O'CONNELL, Robert M. 4473-V, NF2Z, Rochester, NY. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, May 2000.

PETERSEN, Philip B. 5387-TA, W2DME, Atlantic Highlands, NJ. 14 April 2000, no details. Reported by SOWP West Coast Net 20 April 2000.

REIFENSTEIN, George H. 4567-M, W3ML, Auke Bay, AK. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, May 2000.

SCHULTZ, Clarence S. 0744-V, W0CHJ, Junction City, KS. No date or details. Reported in *QST*, April 2000.

SCOTT, Ralph C. 4237-P, K4AWY, Clarks Hill, SC. 25 November 1999, no details. Reported by his wife Marjorie R. Scott and in *QCWA Journal*, Spring 2000.

STEWART, Patrick L. 3753-V, W7GVC, Walla Walla, WA. No date or details. Reported in *QST* May 2000.

TAYLOR, George J. 2098-M, W9YXC, Litchfield, IL. 23 December 1999, no details. Was a Navy pilot in World War II and then worked for the Illinois State Police as a radio technician at Springfield where they still used Morse code as a means of sending messages across country. Reported by his wife Mary Taylor.

TIMM, Millard F. 3579-P, KA2JUG, New Monmouth, NJ. No date or details. Reported in *QST* April 2000.

THOMPSON, Robert E. "Bob" 4453-P, W1WM, Deer Isle, ME. 31 March 2000 of cancer, age 91 years. Wireless/radio operator on yachts. Reported by Sam Beverage SOWP 4266-V, W1MGP.

WEILAND, Ward A. 4556-P, W7GEY, Seattle, WA. 19 January 2000, no details. Reported by Wayne B. Hughes WA7YRR and in *QST*, June 2000.

Silent Key Reporting

Please send reports to SOWP Exec. Sec'y Waldo T. Boyd., P.O. Box 86, Geyserville, CA 95441-0086. If available, include date, age of deceased and cause of passing.

**The KANA MILL
From CRYPTOLOG
authorized by
Graydon Lewis
SOWP 4564-V, N7FCO**

One of the last of two Kana intercept mills know to exist was donated on 2 May, 2000 to the National Maritime Museum Association. The NMMA is associated with the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park. The special "Underwood Code Machine" was found in a "war surplus" store many years ago by The U S Naval Cryptologic Veterans Association (NCVA) mem-

ber Paul Dane, W6WOW. The other Kana machine (IRIP-5) is located at the Naval Security Group Command Display at Corry Station, (NTTC), Pensacola, Florida. An NMMA official said the machine might be loaned to the National Cryptologic Museum at Fort Meade until the proper kind of exhibit can be designed and built to display the historic machine in the NMMA/National Historic Park in San Francisco. A photo of the transfer ceremony in the home of Paul Dane (W6WOW) is being sent to the NCVA internet homepage. (WWW.USNCVA.ORG).

**MEMBER
CORRESPONDENCE**

Editor:

Reference page 8 of the December 1999 issue of the *World Wireless Beacon*, the web page update. A great idea to use to swap photos, equipment for sale or give away, antique gear, etc.

73

Al Newbold
SOWP 2407-V, W6MMG

++++ SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS, Inc., a Non Profit (IRS 501(c)(3)) Corporation chartered in California - FOUNDED 1968 +++++ ~ William A. Breniman - Founder and President Emeritus ~ **CORRESPONDENCE: SOWP Headquarters** - Send letters re: Dues, Change of Address and all membership correspondence to: Exec. Sec. Waldo T. Boyd (K6DZY) P.O. Box 86, Geyserville, CA 95441. [Tel: 707-857-3434] [email: k6dzy@netdex.com] Dues are \$15 U.S. per Calendar Year or 3 Years - \$40 and must be paid to subscribe to this newsletter. Orders for **SOWP emblems, stationery & SLOP CHEST** items to: Exec. Sec. Waldo T. Boyd (K6DZY) P.O. Box 86, Geyserville, CA 95441. [Tel: 707-857-3434] [email: k6dzy@netdex.com] Please enclose SASE, **SOWP QSL CARDS** may be ordered from **RUSPRINT**, 12730 Stateline Rd., Leawood, KS 66209 [Tel: 1-800-962-5783]. **EDITORIAL OFFICE:** The World Wireless Beacon is published by The Society of Wireless Pioneers, Inc., 5319 Sierra Vista Rd., Murphys, CA USA 95247. [Tel: 209-728-8316] [email: earlw@goldrush.com] Editor & Publisher, Earl D. Wilson, Jr. (K6GPB). Send comments, letters and editorial contributions, (with SASE) to the Editor. ORIGINAL MATERIAL IN THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE QUOTED IF CREDIT IS GIVEN.

**Society of Wireless Pioneers, Inc.
P.O. Box 86, Geyserville, CA, USA 95441-0086**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**TIME VALUED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
REYNOLDSBURG, OH
PERMIT No. 81**